

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: TECH, SPECIAL PANEL TO STUDY SULFUR OXIDE CONTROL
TECHNOLOGY

PASS TO: DR. MYRON KRATZER

THE COMMERCE TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD, CHAIRED BY DR BETSY
ANKER-JOHNSON, HAS ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL PANEL TO STUDY SULFUR
OXIDE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ELECTRICAL
GENERATING PLANTS BURNING, OR DESIRING TO BURN, SULFUR-
BEARING COAL.

THE STUDY WILL EXAMINE HOW MUCH AND AT WHAT COST SUCH
COAL MAY BE UTILIZED IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE
MANNER BY EMPLOYING TECHNOLOGICALLY FEASIBLE DESULFURI-
ZATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE NOW OR EXPECTED IN THE VERY
NEAR FUTURE. SUCH OPTIONS INCLUDE (1) WET LIME FLUE
GAS DESULFURIZATION (2) SUPPLEMENTARY CONTROL SYSTEMS
AND/OR TALL STACKS AND (3) MECHANICAL COAL CLEARNING.
THE FINAL REPORT IS DUE IN 60 DAYS.

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YOUR ASSISTANCE REQUESTED IN SUPPLYING US WITH INFOR-

MATION ON JAPANESE TECHNOLOGY ON THIS SUBJECT. DR.
ANKER-JOHNSON HELD A MEETING IN NOVEMBER WITH DR. MICHII
HASHIMOTO, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.
THIS MEETING UNFORTUNATELY WAS CUT
VERY SHORT DUE TO SCHEDULING PROBLEMS AND HE
MERELY TOUCHED ON THE SUBJECT. AN
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY - COMMENCING IN 1960 - WITH
RESULTS PUBLISHED IN JAPANESE WAS MENTIONED WHICH MIGHT BE OF
INTEREST. OF GREATER CONCERN TO US IS HIS
STATEMENT THAT 40 JAPANESE PLANTS HAVE INSTALLED
EQUIPMENT FOR DESULFURIZATION OF STACK GASES, 35
OF WHICH ARE USING STACK GAS SCRUBBERS. FURTHER
INFORMATION WITH EMPHASIS ON TECHNOLOGY USED IN
PLANTS NOT EMPLOYING SCRUBBERS WOULD BE HELPFUL.

EARLY RESPONSE, IN VIEW OF THE SHORT DEADLINE FOR
THE REPORT, WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. KISSINGER

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